

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

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The apparatus according to the invention enables preventative and corrective de-icing of lines in which the rated voltages are situated typically, but not restrictively, from 25 to 315 kV. For this reason, the apparatus can be called an Energized Line De-icer On-load Network De-icer (hereafter referred to as ELD ONDI).

The ELD ONDI imposes an alternating current flow in the circuits of the lines looped between them for heating the conductors by the Joule effect. It can be embodied by classic and proven technologies such as phase shifting transformer (PST), capacitor, and circuit breaker. Its activation and exploitation can be achieved by manoeuvring maneuvering nothing but the circuit breakers (no disconnecting switch), which renders it unaffected by ice rain. We can therefore, by remote control, successively connect a plurality of lines of a target region to the ELD ONDI without any interruption of the charge, thus where it gets its name. The most strategic and critical lines can be heated before and during an ice storm in order to prevent the formation of ice.

The economic justification of the ELD ONDI at certain substations uniquely depends on its use as a de-icer. It is always important to emphasize that it is possible that in other regions, its ability to control power flow or other parameters of the grid can be profited from throughout the year.

The term ELD ONDI is used for referring to the function of the apparatus rather than the technology employed for realizing it. Depending on the lines to be de-iced, we see that the ELD ONDI can be constituted by a PST only or a PST in parallel with a capacitor. We can say that the PST is "assisted" when it is used in combination with a capacitor. An APST (Assisted Phase shifting Transformer) acts as a PST with regards to the transmission of active power.

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The technology of interface power regulators (IPR) interphase power controller (IPC) technology has given birth to three devices that have been commercialized by the company ABB: the decoupling link (DL) interconnector (DI), the default fault current limiting transformer

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